

NURSE WHO ATTENDED EUGENE FIELD WHEN A BOY IS NOW RESIDENT OF UTAH



MRS. TEMPERANCE MOON.
Of Farmington, Utah. Nurse of Eugene Field for Two Years, from 1891 to 1893.

A WAY beyond Lagoan, on the north Farmington road, lives a sweet-faced, gentle-voiced old lady whose distinction it is to have been the nurse of Eugene Field. "Would she leave her garden for a few minutes to talk about her famous charge?" Her face lighted up with pleasure at the question and she accepted the invitation cordially for he was her "boy," she said.

In 1891, when Eugene Field was 9 or 10 months old, Mrs. Temperance Moon of Farmington, Utah, then a child herself of 11, was for two years employed as a nurse girl in the family of Roswell M. Field, father of the distinguished writer. Little Eugene was her special charge. In 1893 Mrs. Moon came to Utah with her brother and heard no more from the Field family until she wrote Eugene Field in 1891 to ask if the writer of the verses, which she had come to love, was by any chance her little charge of earlier years.

Field responded with warmth to her

letter, said he remembered his old nurse and cordially inquired about her family and old-time mutual friends. The letters which passed between them were a great source of comfort to Mrs. Moon, and the correspondence only terminated at Field's death. "If he had lived, I believe he would have come to see me," she said sadly. It was the same "if he had lived" that hundreds of warm personal friends repeat with regret as they mourn the early death of the writer.

Sends Her His Picture.

Field sent Mrs. Moon a picture with the inscription "Frances Field, and her baby, Eugene Field. Copy of a picture made in 1891," and asked her to write him if she remembered it. Mrs. Moon says that she does and a letter one when she herself took the child in his first little suit of clothes to have his picture taken. This one, she would give many times its value to possess, but there is no means of knowing if a copy is in existence. The new clothes were of black velvet, with a circular clasp

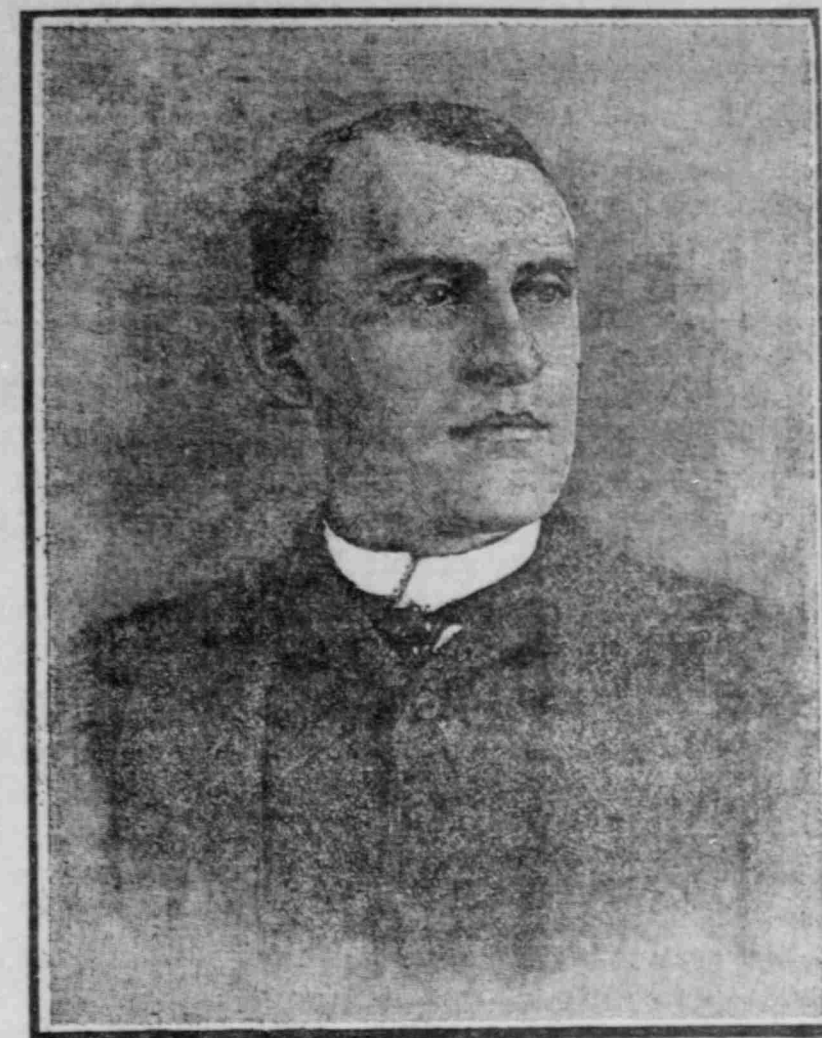
near the elbow. You letter pleased me very much indeed. I send you a copy of a picture of my mother and myself—a copy of one made when I was a little baby. Please tell me whether it looks natural to you. The Pomeroy girls, Mary and Stella, are both married. Mary lives here in Chicago and has no children. Stella lives in St. Louis and has a large family. My aunt Belle is now a widow, living in Swansey, Ill. She married a farmer named Angier. I married in 1873, and we have three children living, a girl of 15, and boys aged 12 and 9. We have lost 2 boys and one girl. My brother is married but has no children. He is one of the editors of the Kansas City Star. I shall try to send you a picture of my father if I can get a copy made of one we have. Do let me hear from you often. Your little niece, stretched me very much. God bless you.

Very sincerely yours,
Eugene Field

420 Fullerton Avenue, Chicago.

May 13th, 1891.

Facsimile of letter from Eugene Field to Mrs. Temperance Moon of Farmington, written in 1891. A good illustration of the beautiful microscopic writing that usually went to the printers without a blot or erasure.



Very Sincerely Yours,

Eugene Field.

A Late Photograph of Eugene Field, Taken in 1891.

that fell to his heels and a black velvet hat and feather. The child was very large for his age. Mrs. Moon says, fair, with dark blue eyes and soft pliable light hair that was quite long for a baby. This fairness Eugene Field kept in later life, a newspaper story describing him as "tall, slender, boyish, blonde and aggressive."

Mrs. Moon, whose maiden name was Temperance Westwood, lost her parents when she was about 11 years old, and it was found necessary for the child to go to work. Her sister Mary was at the time cook in the Field household in St. Louis, Mo. The family was in good circumstances and kept a considerable establishment, living in a three-story house in one of the best residence suburbs of the city. Mrs. Field came into the kitchen one day when Temperance was there visiting her sister, and it was explained to her that the little girl must secure a situation.

"I want you to stay here," she said to Temperance, "and take care of Eu-

gene, who is getting to be a big boy." Later, when another child was born, Temperance had the entire charge of Eugene, sleeping with him in the nursery and looking after him all day long.

Field Loved Stories.

Mrs. Moon recalls particularly that in the last months of her care of him, when the child was in his fourth year, how he loved stories. The mother often gave Temperance money to buy fairy tales to read to Eugene.

"He seemed in spirit older than his body," said Mrs. Moon, and added that the child clung to her and that she could do anything with him. He was a good baby, large and healthy, according to Mrs. Moon, and of a very inquiring disposition. One of his favorite tales was "Puss in Boots."

Mrs. Field was a very particular woman, insisting that the best care must be given her children. She did not like nicknames, so the boys were called

by their full names, Eugene and Roswell. The father, a lawyer of considerable local note, was very fond of his children and used to come to the nursery to play with his boys oftener than the nurse quite liked. He was a great smoker, and Mrs. Moon remembers seeing him striding up and down the parlors, declaiming some speech he was about to make.

When Mrs. Moon came to Utah, in 1893, she parted with great regret from the little boy she had come to love. Crossing the plains with an ox team and the experience of the strange life in the west caused her to lose sight of her charge, whose mother soon after died, and the family was broken up. Mrs. Moon married Henry Moon in 1895. They lived for some time in Salt Lake, but later moved to Farmington, where she now resides.

Field's Mother Dies.

While he was yet a little child Eugene Field's mother died, and he was placed in the care of his aunt, Miss Mary French of Amherst, Mass. At 17 years of age he entered Williams college. His father, Roswell M. Field, a distinguished lawyer of St. Louis, who is perhaps best known as one of the counsel for Dred Scott in the famous slavery case, was a thorough scholar. He required the young student to carry on all correspondence in Latin. Before the son had been long at Williams college the father died.

Professor John W. Burgess, who was appointed the boy's guardian, placed him in Knox college, at Galesburg, Ill. He studied there two years and later at the University of Missouri. In 1871, having attained his majority, Field traveled in Europe. He then became a newspaper reporter on the St. Louis Evening Journal, from which time his career as a writer was assured. His death occurred November 4, 1895, at the age of 45.

It is doubtful if any other writer has woven so many beautiful child fancies into verse. Even if he had never written anything else, there were enough to bring fame to Eugene Field. His prose writings prove him to have been gifted with delicate sentiment and rare humor. His early death at a time when he was doing his best work cut off a career that was only just begun to shape itself.

Following is a copy of a letter Field wrote Mrs. Moon, of which a facsimile is herewith reproduced.

Dear Mrs. Moon: Your letter pleased me very much indeed. I send you a copy of a picture of my mother and myself—a copy of one made when I was a little baby. Please tell me whether it looks natural to you. The Pomeroy girls, Mary and Stella, are both married. Mary lives here in Chicago, and has no children. Stella lives in St. Louis and has a large family. My aunt Belle is now a widow, living in Swansey, N. H. She married a farmer named Angier. I married in 1873, and we have three children living, a girl of 15 and boys aged 12 and 9. We have lost 2 boys and one girl. My brother is married but has no children. He is one of the editors of the Kansas City Star. I shall try to send you a picture of my father if I can get a copy made of one we have. Do let me hear from you often. Your letter interested me very much. God bless you. Ever sincerely yours, EUGENE FIELD.

420 Fullerton Avenue, Chicago.
May 13, 1891.

BITTER WAR FOR CONTROL OF AVIATION IN AMERICA



PRINCIPAL MEN IN THE AVIATION WAR.

Thomas A. Hill, the head of the "insurgents," and Cortlandt Field Bishop, the president of the Aero club of America (on the left), are shown above. Below, beginning at the left, are Professor Todd of Amherst, a member of the committee, who will have charge of the convention which meets in New York on June 22; Alfred Wagstaff, Jr., who headed the "insurgent" ticket in the Aero club of America against Cortlandt Field Bishop; and Wilbur R. Kimball, an old member of the Aero club of America, who strongly favors the new organization.

NEW YORK, June 18.—At a joint convention of the American Aeronautical association and the Aeronautical Federation of America to be held in this city for several days, beginning Wednesday, June 22, the first gun in a bitter war, which will decide the control of future aviation meets in America, will be fired. Aligned on one side are the two above mentioned organizations, offshoots of the Aero club of America and founded by insurgent members of that body who were dissatisfied with the conditions, existing in the parent organization. On the other side is the Aero Club of America, the oldest organization of its kind in

the country, and which, it is said, is controlled absolutely by the financiers who own the Wright company.

The recent remarkable achievements by Glenn Curtiss and other well known aviators, and the enormous amount of prize money that is at present being offered by prominent newspapers for inter-city flights, have all combined to emphasize the importance of the coming convention. According to the leaders on both sides, these flights can be sanctioned by whatever organization is selected by the papers, but officials of the Aero Club of America claim that no records would be recognized, un-

less the flight is sanctioned by that body.

The main purpose of the convention is the amalgamation of all the aero clubs in the country into one organization—the name to be selected—for the purpose of promoting the science of aeronautics. All clubs in the United States have received invitations to join, including the Aero Club of America, but every organization will be given an equal representation. This would eliminate the Aero Club of America as the controlling factor in aeronautics in this country. According to present indications, however, the Aero club will

make no application to join the new organization. As the representative of the International Aeronautical federation, it has absolute control of all international aviation meets, and the leaders feel confident that this will prove a most effective weapon when the question of home control arises.

The leaders of the opposing organizations, on the other hand, allege that the new body will have a larger national representation than the Aero Club of America, for this reason will control all the aviation meets held in this country. Their status will soon be recognized by the International Aeronautical federation, and in this way they hope to replace the Aero club as the representative of the United States. They state, however, that they will not attempt to interfere with the international aviation meet, which is to be held in this country, October, when the contest will be held for the International cup, which was won by Glenn Curtiss at the recent meet.

The formation of the new organization is the culmination of a bitter fight, that has been going on in the Aero Club of America for two years. A small group, headed by Thomas A. Hill, Wilbur R. Kimball, Charles Levee and G. L. M. Boulton, were dissatisfied with the administration, and at the election held last November they put their own ticket in the field. The insurgents, who were elected by a good majority, the insurgents kept up the fight, however, and a month later brought suit seeking to invalidate the elections, which is still hanging fire.

A New Organization.

Later on they founded a new organization and called it the American Aeronautical association, which one of the bodies that is to join with the Aeronautical Federation of America in forming the new society. In April of the present year, six prominent members of the club signed a letter requesting the resignation of Mr. Bishop from the office of president. Nothing came of it, however, and a few days later Mr. Bishop sailed for Europe to make arrangements for the international aviation meet to be held in this country next fall. Before sailing, he said that he had the assurance of the "Wright company" that they would not prosecute foreign aviators for alleged infringement upon their patents, should they decide to come over, and compete.

As a forerunner to the present movement, a letter was sent out early in May signed by Thomas A. Hill and a number of other important insurgents to all the aero clubs in the country, asking the clubs not to attend the convention of the Aero club held on May 23. The letter stated that "the officials of the Aero Club of America, the Wright company and other aerial show promoters have combined in an effort to monopolize the science of aviation, mainly for the profit of a group of 'high financiers' who were unpleasantly identified with the notorious traction trust in New York."

In another paragraph the letter said: "You know that the notorious contract between the Wright company and the Aero Club of America, as well as the exorbitant demands of the Wright Exhibition company, have created such a prejudice against this combination of institutions that scarcely any community in the country has consented to hold a meet sanctioned by the Aero Club of America or has agreed to employ a Wright machine or buy a Wright patent."

Thomas A. Hill, one of the leading spirits in the insurgent movement and secretary of the committee which has organized the new organization, was interviewed with a representative of The Herald-Republican gave a brief outline of the new organization.

Outline of Plans.

"It will be the purpose of the new organization," he said, "to place the science of aeronautics on a broad and liberal basis. Our fight in the Aero Club of America has been one for equal representation, and to every club in the new organization this will be granted. We intend to establish three sections to carry on the work of the organization. They will be the scientific, sporting and industrial. The scientific section will have its college and academic committees; the former

to encourage the science of aeronautics in the various colleges and universities throughout the country, and the latter to look after similar work in the high schools.

"The sporting section, there will be professional and amateur committees, which will have charge of all the meets. Although the vast majority of successful aviators of the present day are professionals, the sport will no doubt reach a stage of development where there will be amateur aviators, just as there are amateur runners."

"On the industrial section will be the manufacturers' and commercial committees. These committees will have charge of all matters pertaining to legislation, inventions, patents, etc."

At the present time it is exceedingly difficult for a small aero club to get recognition when seeking redress for alleged wrongs. Should a club, however, be a member of the new body, it could present its complaint to the proper section and its interests would immediately be looked after.

"The new organization will not be a rival of the Aero Club of America in any sense of the word. We have extended an invitation to the Aero club to join the new organization, and should they decide to accept, they will be given the same privileges as other members."

"Should the Aero club decline the offer, the new club will undoubtedly be at a slight disadvantage for a time, owing to the fact that the Aero club is this country's representative in the International Aeronautical federation, and the sole right to sanction international meets in this country. This handicap would undoubtedly be overcome in a short time, owing to our larger representation."

A Secondary Question.

"The question of meets, however, is entirely secondary. In fact, the new organization will have absolutely nothing to do with meets that are run for the purpose of making money. On the other hand, it will not interfere with any club that desires to run a meet for commercial reasons, even though this club be a member of the organization."

It is the "regulars" of the Aero Club of America who view the new movement with alarm, they are keeping the fact to themselves. When Mr. Holtman, the secretary of the Aero club, was asked for his opinion regarding the new organization, he said: "As far as this new body is concerned, they can have all the meets they desire, but any records made at these meets will not be recognized, as the Aero Club of America is the only representative in this country of the International Aeronautical federation, and, therefore, any record made at a meet not sanctioned by our organization would not be recognized, even if a man were to go ten miles high in an aeroplane."

The new organization will probably control most of the local meets, but unless we give our consent, they can have nothing to do with an international meet. Even should the new body demonstrate that they are the representative body of aeronautics to the International federation, they would not be elected as the American representative, owing to the fact that the Aero Club of America is a charter member of the International organization.

"But there is no possibility of the new organization becoming the representative body. For the sake of argument, take the membership of the two bodies. The leaders of the new movement claim that the new organization will represent an amalgamation of clubs. I can state with assurance that the membership of the Aero club is made up of a few clubs, but combined eighty clubs does not equal the membership of the Aero club alone."

Mr. Holtman was then asked if this new organization can possibly conceive the idea of having anything to say regarding the meet, as it is purely our concern.

Not Affect Next Meet.

"Emphatically no," he answered. "When Glenn H. Curtiss won the international cup at Rheims, the Aero Club of America had sent him over to compete, paying all his expenses, and, therefore, the cup belongs to the club. We issued a challenge to foreign competitors, and if they want to compete for the cup they must come to this country. We cannot take where this new organization can possibly conceive the idea of having anything to say regarding the meet, as it is purely our concern."

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